

-it tastes like
40c Coffee
but costs very
much less

NEDROW COFFEE

"How do we do it?"
"By coupling scientific
knowledge with a lot
of care and work."

If you are unable to get Nedrow Coffee from your
dealer, write us. But ask him first.

WORDEN GROCER COMPANY

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Kalamazoo, Mich.

The IRON TRAIL

By
REX BEACH

Copyright, 1915, by Harper &
Brother

SYNOPSIS

Murray O'Neil, railroad builder, on his way to Alaska, is a passenger on the Nebraskan. The ship runs aground. O'Neil helps Captain Johnny Brennan to quell a panic among the passengers.

As the ship settles O'Neil is accosted by a beautiful girl, and he plunges overboard with her. They are picked up by Captain Brennan. She proves to be Natalie Gerard, whose mother is the friend of Curtis Gordon, O'Neil's unscrupulous business rival.

O'Neil and Natalie journey to Hope together. She tells him of her mother and Gordon. When they arrive at Hope Gordon meets them.

O'Neil is impressed with the magnetism of his rival, but is sure his plans are unshakable. Tom Barker quits Gordon for O'Neil. They go to Cordova in time to save Dan Appleton in a crooked card game.

Appleton, an engineer, had worked for Gordon. He casts his fortunes with O'Neil. O'Neil leads his men to a wild country, convinced he can build a railroad up the Salmon river.

Elisa Appleton is sent to Omar to expose the man who is trying to match control of an empire. She meets her brother and Natalie. Dan is worried over a possible newspaper attack by Elisa or O'Neil.

There's a scene when Curtis Gordon asks Gloria to be hostess to Miss Golden. Gloria says Miss Golden isn't a fit person to meet Natalie. Gordon says she has money and he needs her in his schemes.

In her extremity Mrs. Gerard listens to Natalie's plea to go to the Irish prince. O'Neil finds places for them in his new hotel. Gordon, thoroughly enraged, plans to cripple O'Neil.

Don tells his sister he's desperately in love with Natalie and asks her to marry him. "Yes, Mr. O'Neil is here," he was informed, "but he's registered under a different name. No doubt he'll be glad to see you, however."

A moment later Murray recognized the voice of O'Neil's valet over the wire and greeted him by name. Another brief delay and the capitalist himself was at the phone.

"Come right up," he said, and O'Neil replaced the receiver with a sigh of relief.

Ills greeted him warmly, for their relations had been close.

"Lucky you found me," he said. "I'm going back on the next sailing."

"Have you signed up with the Arctic Navigation company?" Murray inquired, and the other started.

"Bless me! What do you mean?" Ills called laughing. "I see you haven't. I don't think you will, either, after you've talked with me."

Without the tremor of an eyelid Ills exclaimed: "My word! What are you driving at?"

"That agreement over freight rates—of course."

The Briton eyed him for a moment, then carefully closed the door leading from his sitting room and, seating himself, Ills said:

"What do you know about that matter?" he asked quietly.

"About all there is to know—enough at least to appreciate your feelings."

"I flattered myself that my affairs were private. Where did you get your information?"

"I'll tell you if you insist, although I'd rather not. There's no danger of its becoming public."

Ills showed his relief. "I'm glad you gave me a start. A awful fix for a man to be in. Why, I'm here under an assumed name! Fancy! But—"

He waved his hand in a gesture which showed his acceptance of the inevitable.

"You haven't made your new agreement?"

"I'm to meet Blum and Capron to-morrow."

"Why didn't you take the S. R. and N. when I called you last month?"

"I couldn't. But what has that to do with the matter?"

"Don't you see? It's so plain to me that I can't understand how you failed to realize the value—the necessity of buying my road."

"Explain, please."

"Gladly. The North Pass and Yukon is paying a fabulous blackmail to the river lines to escape a ruinous rate war."

"Right! It's blackmail, as you say."

"Under the present agreement you handle the Dawson freight and keep out of the lower river. They take the whole Tanana valley and lower Yukon."

"Correct."

"Didn't it occur to you that the S. R. and N., which starts 400 miles west of the North Pass and taps the Tanana valley, can be used to put the river steamers of that section out of business?"

"Let's have a look at the map." Murray hurried into an adjoining room and returned with a huge chart, which he unrolled upon the table. "To tell you the truth, I never looked at the proposition from that angle. Our people were afraid of those glaciers and the competition of the copper trust. They're disgusted, too, with our treatment."

"The trust is eliminated. Kink harbor is wiped off the map, and Perakos in the lead."

"How about this fellow Gordon?"

Dawson by way of St. Michaels at a loss. Of course Ills and his crowd had to meet competition, and it nearly broke 'em the first two seasons. Gee, they were the mad ones! Finally they fixed up an agreement—had to or go bust—and of course the Native Sons put it over our English cousins. They agreed to restore the old rate, and each side promised to pay the other a royalty of \$10 a ton on all the freight it hauled to Dawson and up river points. You can guess the result, can't you? The steamboat companies let Ills haul all the freight and sat back on their haunches and took their profit. The every ton he hauled he slipped 'em ten round American dollars, stamped with the gold seal of liberty. Oh, it was soft! When they had him fairly tied up they drydocked their steamboats, to save wear and tear. He paid 'em a thousand dollars a day for three years. If that ain't blackmail it's a first cousin to it by marriage."

"Didn't the interstate commerce commission get wise?"

"Certainly not. It looks wise, but it never gets wise. Oh, believe me, Poultney Ills is hopping mad! I s'pose he's over here now to renew the arrangement for another three years on behalf of his stockholders. Let's have a dram."

Bulker sat back and stared as through a mist at his companion, enjoying the effect of his disclosure.

O'Neil was indeed impressed, more deeply than his informant dreamed. Out of the lips of a drunken man had come a hint which set his nerves tingling. He knew Ills well, he knew the caliber of the Englishman, and a plan was already leaping in his brain whereby he might save the S. R. and N.

It lacked an hour of midnight when O'Neil escaped from Bulker and reached his room. Once inside he seized the telephone and rang up hotel after hotel, inquiring for the English capitalist, but without result. After a moment's consideration he took his hat and gloves and went out. The matter did not permit of delay. Not only were his own needs imperative, but if Poultney Ills had come from London to confer with his rivals there was little time to spare.

Remembering the Englishman's habits, O'Neil turned up the avenue to another fashionable hotel, where he asked for the manager, whom he well knew.

"Yes, Mr. Ills is here," he was informed, "but he's registered under a different name. No doubt he'll be glad to see you, however."

A moment later Murray recognized the voice of Ills' valet over the wire and greeted him by name. Another brief delay and the capitalist himself was at the phone.

"Come right up," he said, and O'Neil replaced the receiver with a sigh of relief.

Ills greeted him warmly, for their relations had been close.

"Lucky you found me," he said. "I'm going back on the next sailing."

"Have you signed up with the Arctic Navigation company?" Murray inquired, and the other started.

"Bless me! What do you mean?" Ills called laughing. "I see you haven't. I don't think you will, either, after you've talked with me."

Without the tremor of an eyelid Ills exclaimed: "My word! What are you driving at?"

"That agreement over freight rates—of course."

The Briton eyed him for a moment, then carefully closed the door leading from his sitting room and, seating himself, Ills said:

"What do you know about that matter?" he asked quietly.

"About all there is to know—enough at least to appreciate your feelings."

"I flattered myself that my affairs were private. Where did you get your information?"

"I'll tell you if you insist, although I'd rather not. There's no danger of its becoming public."

Ills showed his relief. "I'm glad you gave me a start. A awful fix for a man to be in. Why, I'm here under an assumed name! Fancy! But—"

He waved his hand in a gesture which showed his acceptance of the inevitable.

"You haven't made your new agreement?"

"I'm to meet Blum and Capron to-morrow."

"Why didn't you take the S. R. and N. when I called you last month?"

"I couldn't. But what has that to do with the matter?"

"Don't you see? It's so plain to me that I can't understand how you failed to realize the value—the necessity of buying my road."

"Explain, please."

"Gladly. The North Pass and Yukon is paying a fabulous blackmail to the river lines to escape a ruinous rate war."

"Right! It's blackmail, as you say."

"Under the present agreement you handle the Dawson freight and keep out of the lower river. They take the whole Tanana valley and lower Yukon."

"Correct."

"Didn't it occur to you that the S. R. and N., which starts 400 miles west of the North Pass and taps the Tanana valley, can be used to put the river steamers of that section out of business?"

"Let's have a look at the map." Murray hurried into an adjoining room and returned with a huge chart, which he unrolled upon the table. "To tell you the truth, I never looked at the proposition from that angle. Our people were afraid of those glaciers and the competition of the copper trust. They're disgusted, too, with our treatment."

"The trust is eliminated. Kink harbor is wiped off the map, and Perakos in the lead."

"How about this fellow Gordon?"

(Continued next week)

RID YOUR CHILD OF WORMS.

Thousands of children have worms that sap their vitality and make them listless and irritable. Kickapoo Worm Killer kills and removes the worms and has a tonic effect on the system. Does your child eat spasmodically? Cry out in sleep or grind its teeth? These are symptoms of worms and you should find relief for them at once. Kickapoo Worm Killer is a pleasant remedy. At your druggist, 25c.—Ad 1.

Lovers of a Fine Cup of Coffee

Try a Can of

Bancroft House Coffee

It is popular wherever known because sold only in air-tight cans. Aroma and strength preserved—no chance for dust and dirt to spoil it.

The price is a great saving in every home.

Ask for Bancroft House Coffee

Valley City Coffee & Spice Mills, Saginaw

V. F. BAMBER, Prop.
Both Phones

General Draying
and Baggage

Prompt Service to All Parts
of City

Leave Orders at Record Office
ALMA, MICHIGAN

Record Wants Ads for Results

Auction Sale

The undersigned will sell at Public Auction on the Henry Carl farm one mile west and one and three-fourths miles north of Elwell corners, on

Friday, Sept. 29, 1916

Commencing at 1:00 p. m., the following described property, to-wit:

One Sorrel Mare, weight 1400
One Brown Mare, weight 1250
One Sorrel Driving Mare, weight 950
One Sorrel Colt, six months old
One Sorrel Colt, five months old

These colts are half brothers, well bred and matched drivers.

One heavy Wagon
One Wagon Box
One Spike-tooth Drag
One 7-tooth Cultivator
One set heavy double Harness
Five set Fly Nets
Some Household Goods

Terms of Sale

All sums of \$5.00 or under, cash; over that amount one year's time on good approved notes at seven per cent interest. Two per cent off for cash on all sums over \$5.00.

J. E. HOAGLIN, Prop.

F. H. Rowland, Clerk



J. D. HELMAN
Auctioneer

1000 PEOPLE

now using Gas in Gratiot County. We want

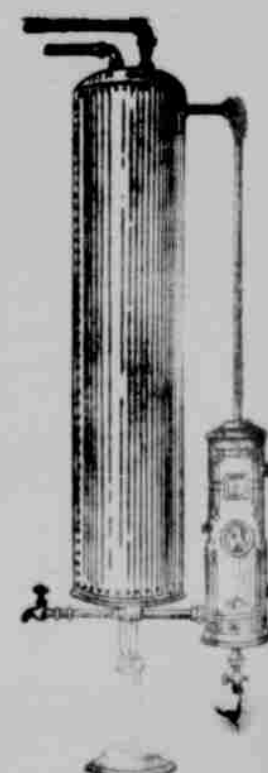
1000 MORE 1000

before January 1st.

The housewife with the Gas Stove this season is the happy one. Ask her how she enjoys it this hot weather.



Full line of Ranges
and Water Heat-
ers on Hand.



Gratiot County Gas Company

Try The Record Liners for Your Want

"Reynolds"—The Autocrat of all Shingles



How's Your Roof?

DOES IT LEAK? DOES IT LOOK BAD?
Fall Rains and Winter Storms Will Soon Be Here.

Now is the time to re-roof. Reynolds Shingles are the original Asphalt Shingles. They have been in actual use for over fifteen years, and the first roof ever laid with Reynolds Shingles is still giving good service.

This means Fifteen Years Proven Service—no need for a "Certificate of Hope" when you have a Reynolds Shingle roof.

ADAPTABILITY—Reynolds Shingles are adaptable for all types of roof construction having one-quarter pitch or more. They are especially suitable for thatched effects, eye-brow windows, curves and angles.

DURABILITY—With the proven service of over fifteen years, Reynolds Shingles are the acknowledged long-life material from which to make roofs. Being made of nature's most adaptable material they should last many, many years.

BEAUTY—Reynolds Shingles makes the most attractive roof of any material obtainable. They may be had in a variety of colorings—natural, fadeless colorings inherent in the mineral surfacing.

FIRE-SAFE—Reynolds Shingles have been thoroughly tested at the Underwriters Laboratories and received the highest approval ever awarded by these laboratories for the same type of roofing material.

Reynolds' Re-Roofing Week
OCTOBER 9-14

Reynolds Shingles Possess the Three Cardinal Shingle Virtues
BEAUTY, DURABILITY and ECONOMY

Now, when the roof is subjected to the test of the elements as to the roof. It must stand the searching test of the beating rain and hail, blowing snows, falling sparks, frost and freezing, and many other natural tests of the elements. Reynolds Shingles have never failed to give the greatest satisfaction. Reynolds Shingles are economical to buy, economical to lay and with their natural durability, are cheapest in the end.

Roofers, carpenters and contractors are featuring Reynolds Re-Roofing Week as the time to take care of your re-roofing needs. Place your order for Reynolds Shingles with your dealer early so as to be sure and have delivery made promptly for the convenience of the workmen and to prevent your own disappointment.

Reynolds Shingles are made exclusively by H. M. Reynolds Asphalt Shingle Company, Grand Rapids, Mich. There are many imitations, but only one original.

By putting on that new roof now, you will increase the value of your home accordingly. Don't try to patch a bad roof—put on a new Reynolds Asphalt Shingle Roof.

FOR SALE BY

Alma Grain & Lumber Co.

Bring Your Job Printing to Us